

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before this very important presidential election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, and represents a one-sided attempt to favor the Bush campaign.

Sinclair is going to use the public airwaves free of charge, and while obligated by law to serve the public interest, instead they are going to use their resources to try to sway voters in favor of Bush, without giving Kerry equal time. This is an example of what happens when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of blatantly partisan broadcasts, like the anti-Kerry one planned, it's more important that we see non-partisan reports about real people from our own communities and more substantive, balanced news about issues that matter.

Sinclair Broadcasting's recent actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Public input must be considered before license renewal. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be heard.